

# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY



## DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY POLITICS AND THE LAW

### Objectives of the Program

This program is offered by the Department of Political Science. It aims at providing expertise in the handling of political and legal problems at the level of the local community. From this general aim follow two specific purposes:

- a) a knowledge of politics and political techniques designed to cope with issues that may be problems in a community;
- b) a knowledge of bodies of law and of their application to community issues.

### Program Description

This is a program in applied political science. It combines theoretical education with practical training. Students will be required to apply their academic learning in resolving actual political issues. Acquiring practical experience in community politics, therefore, is an integral part of the program.

### Requirements for the Diploma

1. Credit requirements: A fully qualified candidate is required to complete a minimum of 33 credits.
2. Course requirements: All candidates are required to complete 18 credits in required courses plus a minimum of 15 credits selected from the elective courses.
3. Examination: All students are required to pass a comprehensive examination (3 credits), which will emphasize both the student's general knowledge of the area and the area of specialization. This exam will normally be taken after completion of all course work. The time for the examination will be set in consultation with the program director.

4. Project: All candidates must complete a project (3 credits), which may either take the form of an essay based on an empirical study of a community problem, or a substantial report based on work in a community agency, a court of law, or a political action organization. Candidates should choose a supervisor for their project from among the program's faculty members, no later than at the end of the first year of study. All choices must be approved by the program director.

### Admission Requirements

A bachelor's degree, preferably in social sciences or humanities.

### Courses

The subjects offered cover a broad range of legal and political themes in such a way as to concentrate on the politics of social and legal issues. In that sense, some of the topics covered include:

**Political Prudence and Jurisprudence**

**Social Conflict and Political Organization**

**Interest Groups and the Community**

**Public and Administrative Law**

**Welfare, Environmental and Consumer Law**

**Discrimination and Human Rights**

**Urban Politics**

### Applications Deadline

Applications will be accepted as long as there is space available in the program.

### Location

The diploma program is offered on the Sir George Williams campus.

### Faculty

Although some full-time members of the Department of Political Science are teaching and administering in the program, most of the courses are offered by part-time faculty. This combination is intended to emphasize the relation between theory and practice, by bringing in experienced professionals to impart their expertise while they are engaged in political activities.

### Information

For complete information and admission applications, please contact:

Diploma Program Director  
Department of Political Science  
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